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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1943 No. 50

KHARKOV LIBERATED

MARSHAL STALIN

TO-DAY, troops from the steppes, in co-operation on the flanks with troops from the Voronej and South-Western Fronts, as the result of fierce fighting, broke the enemy's resistance, and occupied the town of Kharkov

THUS, the Second Capital of The Ukraine, our own Kharkov, has been liberated from the Yoke of the Hitlerite Scoundrels

IN the offensive, our troops displayed outstanding valour, training and skill in manœuvring

ETERNAL GLORY to the Heroes who fell in the Struggle for Liberty and the Independence of Our Motherland. Death to the German Invaders

MARSHAL STALIN in an Order of the Day, broadcast from Moscow on Monday, August 23

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THE QUEBEC CONFERENCE

"During the past few days, in Quebec, the Combined Staffs have been sitting around tables which is a good custom, talking things over, discussing ways and means in the manner of friends, in the manner of partners and, may I even say, in the manner of members of the same family (much applause). We have talked constructively of our common purposes in this war, of our determination to achieve victory in the shortest possible time and of our essential co-operation with our great and brave fighting Allies and we have arrived harmoniously at certain definite conclusions.

"Of course, I am not at liberty to disclose just what these conclusions are but in due time we shall communicate the secret information of the Quebec Conference to Germany, Italy and Japan (much applause). We shall communicate this information to our enemies in the only language that their twisted minds seem capable of understanding."

—President ROOSEVELT, *addressing the Canadian Parliament, at Ottawa on Wednesday (August 25).*

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THE POST-WAR WORLD

"Everyone of the United Nations believes in a real and lasting peace and justifies the sacrifices we are making and our unanimity is as confident in seeking that goal. It is no secret that at Quebec there was much talk of the post-war world. That discussion was doubtless, duplicated simultaneously in dozens of nations and hundreds of cities and among millions of people.

"There is a longing in the air. It is not a longing to go back to what they call 'the good old days.' I have distinct reservations as to how good the good old days were. I would rather believe that we can achieve new and better days. Absolute victory in this war will give greater opportunities to the world because the winning of the war in itself is certainly proving to all of us here that concerted action can accomplish things. Surely we can make strides toward greater freedom from want than in the world that we have enjoyed. Surely by unanimous action in driving out the outlaws and keeping them under the heel for ever we can attain freedom from fear and violence."

—President ROOSEVELT, *at Ottawa, on August 25.*

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H.E. Sir Arthur Hope Club

For Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras

Accommodation provided for Indian troops passing through Madras or staying for a few days in the City on leave - -

Recreation: Ping Pong, Chess, Draughts, Radio, etc.

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Madras War Review

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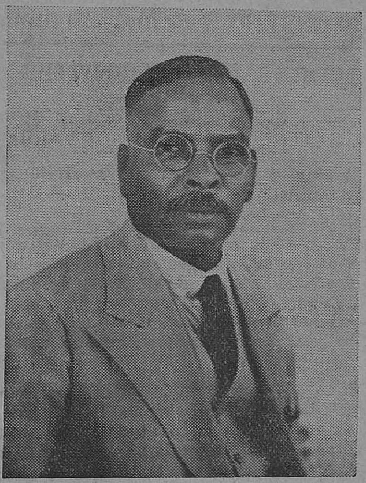
RUNNING COMMENTARY



THE LATE Diwan Bahadur M. C. RAJAH

We deeply regret to record the death of Diwan Bahadur M. C. Rajah, M.L.A., Member of the National Defence Council and Regional Leader of the National War Front, Madras, on Monday night at his residence in St. Thomas' Mount. He rendered distinguished service to his country both in peace and in war, and two of his sons are in the country's defence services. We offer our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Four Years of War—A Retrospect. Next week will see the completion of four years of World War II. The most significant feature at the end of this period is the fact that the Allies have definitely wrested the initiative from the Axis powers by a series of great victories. Looking back across these four years, we are reminded of what Mr. CHURCHILL said just before the fall of France. Speaking on June 18, 1940, when HITLER had overrun Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg and France had almost collapsed, the British Premier declared, "During the first four years of the last war, the Allies experienced nothing but disaster and disappointment, and yet, at the end, their morale was higher than that of the Germans, who had moved from one aggressive triumph to another." It was the worst period in Britain's history, and yet, just as in World War I, Britain stood up to it. HITLER had won the first round. Britain had to wage the war alone. It was an uphill task. It looked as if she would lose the war altogether, for HITLER had, before the war started, isolated Britain and France from the rest of Europe by a policy of diplomacy and fraud. Austria and Czechoslovakia were destroyed, and under the guise of "cultural" and economic "missions," the Balkan Peninsula was infiltrated into by the Germans. The Low Countries and Scandinavia which followed the ostrich-like policy of believing, till the very last, that Germany would respect their neutrality, were eliminated, one by one, by HITLER. As regards Spain, she dare not defy the Germans and Italians who had entered the country during the civil war. And Italy, of course, was the firm ally of Germany.

This was the situation in Europe in 1939. Britain and France were in a state of political isolation and, what was worse, in a state of military unpreparedness to wage a war on the scale of the Germans. It was totally a new technique of warfare that confronted the Western democracies in 1939. The full significance of the strategy and tactics of the total war was not evident to these two countries at the time; they had no idea of the potency of the dive-bomber and the tank; they were not conversant with the enemy's method of quick infiltration followed by rapid fanwise movements; and the work of parachute troops and fifth columnists everywhere was not so well apparent then.

It was a desperate hour for Britain. For, the whole of Western Europe lay prostrate at HITLER's feet, and his *Luftwaffe* swarmed over British skies. MUSSOLINI then started the invasion of Egypt. But Britain stood her ground and saved herself and the world by her great courage and daring.

* * * * *

Four Silhouettes—Hitler's Boast and Churchill's Reply. In retrospect, the war that has passed seems to stand out, silhouetted as it were, against the brightness of recent Allied victories, in four distinct phases. The first is Germany's failure to annihilate British resistance. The second is the failure to annihilate the Red Army. The entry of Japan into the war and HITLER's attempt to use his Far Eastern partner to close in on India, while he himself directed the other arm of the pincer through the Caucasus and the Middle East—mark the third phase of the war. In the fourth phase, which is drawing to a close, the Allies have turned the tables on HITLER and forced him to fight a defensive war.

On September 5, 1940 HITLER said, "Whatever happens, England will be broken." Mr CHURCHILL, replying said on September 11, "Next week may be a very important week in our history." It was in that week that the Royal Air Force shattered HITLER's dreams and won the Battle of Britain. The *Luftwaffe* lost 2,375 planes in this great and momentous battle. Britain which seemed helpless in the summer of 1940, after she lost the major portion of her war material at

Dunkirk, rallied to an extent never visualized by the Germans. HITLER had fixed August 15, 1940, as the date of invasion of Britain. The invaders came, saw and were destroyed. The Battle of London alone cost HITLER 883 planes and more than 2,500 airmen.

* * * * *

Britain Stands Alone—Hitler's Moves in 1940 and 1941. Coming to the second phase of the war, we see Britain groggy and dazed. She stood alone without any Allies. She was in a tottering position. The enemy was strong and he was in terrific form. Britain showed she could take it, but she was hardly in a position to hit back. The initiative was still with HITLER. He had no doubt failed in his invasion move against Britain, but he had his U-boats which wrought much damage to Allied shipping. MUSSOLINI had no doubt failed in his invasion of Egypt, but HITLER could still paralyse the heart of the British Empire by seizing the Middle Eastern countries and pushing on to India. In 1940 HITLER had failed to conquer Britain by a direct frontal assault, but in 1941 he followed the method of indirect approach. He wanted to force Britain to surrender by conquering the South-Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Russia in the summer of 1941.

It seemed as though HITLER was having his way well carved out. In May 1941, Greece and Yugoslavia had fallen victims to HITLER's greed. The island of Crete was stormed by the Germans, and in Iraq RASHID ALI, the pro-German, had captured power. In September 1941 HITLER was at the gates of Leningrad, Moscow and Rostov. As regards Africa, General WAVELL was pushed back to the Egyptian border. This was mainly due to the fact that four of his divisions were sent to fight in Greece. It was HITLER's proudest hour. He had almost fulfilled his plan. Everything was in his favour and the initiative was firmly in his hands.

* * * * *

The Unexpected Happens—Red Army Smashes Hitler's Grand Design of 1941. But the unexpected happened. Just as in 1940 Britain was saved by the Royal Air Force and by General WAVELL's brilliant march in Cyrenaica, so in 1941 the complete expulsion of the Italians from Abyssinia removed the Axis menace to the Suez, and the defensive occupation of Iraq, Syria and Iran by Allied troops saved India. But it is as well to bear in mind that these successes would not have saved Britain, had they not been supplemented by the magnificent achievements of the Red Army in Russia. It was the strength and might of Russia that finally smashed HITLER's grand design of 1941. HITLER made his greatest miscalculation when he thought that Britain would not rush to the rescue of Russia, but within 18 hours of the German attack Mr. CHURCHILL gave his pledge that Britain would support Russia.

HITLER wanted to finish off Russia before he invaded Britain. Even after he realized that the finishing off of Russia would ever remain an unfinished business, he could not proceed with his conquest of Britain, for the Red Army remained strong and unbroken in the rear. His one-by-one method failed. He could not eliminate either Russia or Britain.

(*Continued on page* 10)

MADRAS AND AMENITIES FOR TROOPS

G.O.C., Southern Army's appreciation and tribute.

The following message has been received by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope from Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, G.O.C., Southern Army:—

On a recent visit to Madras I had opportunity to realize the many, great and generous activities in being to better the conditions of life of the troops—both fit and in hospital. These activities are, in whole or in part, based upon the Governor's War Fund—which you yourself, by your personal efforts, have done so much to raise.

I wish to tell you on their behalf, how universal and heartfelt is the appreciation and gratitude of all ranks, Indian and British, of the forces stationed about Madras. We all hope that you will find means to convey this appreciation to those who, by gift or by personal service, have done and are doing so much for the benefit of the troops whom the fortunes of war have planted in your locality.

THE ROOTS OF JUSTICE

(*By* R.G.)

Wherewith shall we water
This tree that is planted
In sorrow and slaughter
And by horror is haunted ?
Wherewith shall we prune it
And foster it fertile,
The heavenly vine new-knit
With laurel and myrtle ?

By blood it is watered
And tears worthy singing ;
From bones of the slaughtered
Its high stem is springing.
With slaying and sorrow
The Uncomprehended
Lord of the Morrow
Fashions it splendid.

The strong vine of justice
To lady and peasant
Whose way in the dust is
Shows lovely and pleasant.
Sun-dappled clusters
Of fruit ripe to bursting
Tempt with their lustres
The hungry and thirsting.

Where worms tunnel slowly
The roots draw the juices
That mount up from lowly
To heavenly uses.
Corruption transmuted
Yields heart-lifting nectar ;
And glory full-fruited
Is dust of dead Hector.

Victims of Neros
And Bloody Assizes,
Martyrs and heroes,
Not yours are the prizes ;
Yet rising from mangled
Corpses of mortals
The vine twines dew spangled
Around heaven's portals.

Though tyrants their raving
And rapine repent not,
And bullies enslaving
The peoples relent not,
Alchemic Nature,
Mistress of Wonder,
Tricks for her creature
Light from the thunder.

KHARKOV AND KISKA

BEFORE the war enters its fourth year, two great victories have been added to the credit side of the United Nations—Kharkov and Kiska. Both of them are victories of far-reaching importance.

THE liberation of Kharkov from the German yoke is a clear demonstration of the fact that the Red Army is strong enough and experienced enough to launch a great offensive and achieve success in it. The Russian Commanders have shown that they are not only masters of the strategy of defence, but also experts in the art of attack. In the early stages of their struggle with the Germans, whose war-machine was then the most powerful in the world, they followed the strategy of keeping their military strength intact. They yielded territory on an enormous scale and withdrew far into the interior. By this method, they avoided envelopment and destruction of their armies by the Germans, and gained valuable time which they used to their greatest advantage. It was more advantageous to the Russians to fight in winter conditions rather than in summer which was favourable to the Germans, and so the time gained was helpful to them. More important than this was the fact that it enabled gigantic war industries in Russia to be removed from the threatened western regions far back into Urals, where they were reorganized and expanded. The development of the Russian winter counter-offensives was more in the nature of protection of the vital industries of the Soviet Union rather than that of powerful offensive campaigns intended to force things to an issue.

IT may be said that the final stage in the process of acquiring mastery of defensive strategy began at Stalingrad where, for the first time, the victorious German offensive was transformed into a great German disaster. Full maturity in the art of defence was reached by Russians this summer, when they withheld, broke and flung back the all-out German offensive against their Kursk salient. Again, for the first time in the history of the war in Russia, a major blow at its point of maximum impact was resisted by the Russians at Kursk.

Defensive and Offensive Strategy

AS one looks back across the two years of war in Russia, one cannot resist a feeling of awe and admiration at the magnificent achievements of the Russians. In spite of gigantic losses, which would have unnerved most nations and brought them to their knees, Russia, with the aid of Britain and America, improved the quantity and increased the power of her military strength to such an extent that she now stands strong enough to take the initiative and launch a successful offensive against the enemy where she chooses.

THE capture of Kharkov is an indication that the Russian army commanders have learned the lessons of the art of the offensive no less than the modern technique of defence. This is the fourth time that Kharkov has changed hands in this war. It was first captured by the Germans in October 1941. After 16 months, it was recaptured by the Russians in February this year. But luck was against the Russians : the thaw came several weeks earlier than usual, and helped the Germans to capture Kharkov in March. Now, after six months, the vital strategic centre of the communication system in South Russia is again in Russian hands. It is the second greatest railway junction in the Soviet Union, and its capture opens the way to the vast plains of the Ukraine.

Drive Towards Stalino

EVEN before the Kharkov victory celebrations in Moscow were over, news was given to the world of yet another Soviet summer offensive, this time on the Donetz basin. The objective of the Russians is Stalino, the big German base. They have already reached a point 84 miles west of Kharkov. Russian troops have beaten off a big German counter-attack between Voroshilovgrad and Stalino, and the Germans are hastily rushing up reserves to fill up the gaps created by the Red Army's defence. But the real grand design of the Russian general offensive may not unfold itself until winter sets in. In the meantime, the Russians are building and consolidating.

Kiska—"Bomb Tokyo" Base

IN the Far East, the important Aleutian island of Kiska was taken from the Japanese without opposition. The landing began on August 15. In a joint statement President Roosevelt and Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister, state, "No Japanese were found (in Kiska), and it is our belief that the enemy evacuation was made under cover of heavy fog. It is evident that the position of the Japanese troops became untenable because of the occupation of Attu, our harassment of enemy supply lines, and recent bombings and bombardments of Kiska by air and surface craft." "The present occupation of Kiska" they added, "frees the last vestige of North American territory of Japanese forces."

THE occupation of Kiska is very important because it gives the American Air Force another great base for any future operations against the Japanese mainland. The Japanese have always considered the Aleutians as a dagger pointing at their important sea communication bases, and now the dagger is fully in Allied hands ! The Japanese voluntarily withdrew from Kiska because they had realized the difficulty of holding it on account of the increasing strain on their shipping resources. Now the northern road of the Allies to bomb Tokyo is complete.

KHARKOV and Kiska, it may be said, are pointers to the way the wind is blowing. They are also links in the great chain which is being forged by the United Nations to render the enemy ineffective and powerless.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT!

By "CHRONICLER"

Summer in England! "Holiday time," as Mr. Churchill said, "when the summer calls the toilers of all countries for an all-too-brief spell from the offices and mills and stiff routine of daily life and bread-winning, and sends them to seek if not rest at least change in new surroundings, to return refreshed and to keep the myriad wheels of civilized society on the move."

But the summer of 1939 was quite different from the normal. There was a hush over all Europe, nay, over all the world, a hush of suspense and in many lands a hush of fear, broken only by the dull thud of Japanese bombs falling on Chinese cities or the tramp of armies crunching the gravel of parade-grounds, splashing through rain-soaked fields, the tramp of two million German soldiers and more than a million Italians "going on manœuvres." Why not? The Dictators must train their soldiers! They must safeguard their interests against the Dutch, the Danes, the Albanians and the Jews! And above all, they must liberate the countries of the world from the thraldom of freedom! This was the situation in Europe at this time of the year 1939, and Mr. Churchill, our Winston, declared in unequivocal terms in a broadcast to the people of the United States just about this time: "If Herr Hitler does not make war, there will be no war . . . If Germany desires to be reassured against attack by her neighbours, she has only to say the word, and we will give her the fullest guarantee in accordance with the principles of the Covenant of the League."

And he concluded: "But whether it be peace or war; peace with its broadening and brightening prosperity, now within our reach; or war with its measureless carnage and destruction, we must strive to frame some system of human relations in the future, which will bring to an end this prolonged hideous uncertainty, which will let the working and creative forces of the world get on with their job, and which will no longer leave the whole life of mankind dependent upon the virtues, the caprice, or the wickedness of a single man." I have extracted this magnificent utterance for the consumption of those who are in doubt regarding Britain's aim in entering the war.

ON THE EVE OF THE WAR

It was during *this week in* 1939, to be more precise on the *24th of August* 1939, that the Russo-German Pact, of non-aggression was signed in Moscow by Herr Von Ribbentrop and M. Molotoff. It was again during this week that the Anglo-Polish Treaty of Mutual Assistance was signed on the 25th August in London. The threat of war assumed such gigantic proportions as to evoke fervent appeals for peace from various quarters. On the 23rd of August King Leopold of Belgium broadcast an appeal for peace; on the 24th the Pope broadcast a paternal message to the world for maintaining peace; on the 25th President Roosevelt sent two appeals to Herr Hitler; and on the 27th M. Daladier, the Premier of France, put in a plea to Herr Hitler that there should be one more attempt at direct negotiation with Poland, which the Nazi leader refused, affirming that Danzig and the Corridor must be returned to the Reich. The stage was set.

What did Hitler want Poland to do? He had demanded Danzig from Poland in a radio speech before the Reichstag in April 1939. Danzig was German before the first World war and the Nazi demands included a German route across the Corridor through former German territory to the Baltic which had been allotted to Poland in the peace treaty. Poland immediately showed that it had no intention of giving up the Corridor which provided its only trade outlet to the sea. Germany found it intolerable to be cut off by the Corridor from its province of East Prussia. The Poles thought it would be intolerable to be cut off from the new port of Gdynia which they had quickly built on the Baltic after the last war. Before pressing his demands on Poland, Hitler wanted an alliance with Italy. Hitler thought he could blackmail Europe into giving him Poland, as he had been able to seize Czechoslovakia. But if war resulted he wanted Italy to distract the French and the British in the Mediterranean and North Africa, and therefore sought an alliance with Rome. On May 22, 1939, a ten-year pact of alliance was formed between Germany and Italy in Berlin to create an invincible bloc of 300,000,000 persons to obtain a just peace. This Axis definition of the pact meant that the Germans and the Italians intended to knock down the frontier posts in Europe and re-make the Continent in the Fascist-Nazi mould. After the Italo-German alliance the British and the French conducted negotiations for a pact with Russia for a mutual defence pact. But the Russian conditions were not quite agreeable. Molotoff, the Soviet Foreign Minister, insisted that the conditions of Soviet co-operation included not only a mutual assistance pact protecting Poland, Greece and Turkey, to whom Britain and France had guaranteed protection, but all the countries bordering on the U.S.S.R. such as Lithunia, Latvia, Estonia and Finland. In other words, Russia wanted to be able to use those countries as bases and buffers for its defence against Germany. While the British and the French were evading the issue of the Baltic States, Hitler saw the chance to keep the Russians out of any alliance with the democracies and use them for his own ends.

PRINCIPLE OF MUTUAL ASSOCIATION

This week in 1940, Mr. Churchill delivered a speech to the House of Commons on 20th August reviewing the war situation. To begin with, he compared this war with its forerunner a quarter of a century ago, pointing out the differences in character. In the last war millions of men fought by hurling enormous masses of steel at one another. This war, on the other hand, is more a conflict of strategy, of organization, of technical apparatus, of science, mechanics and morale; and in this war, again, the whole of the warring nations are engaged, not only soldiers, but the entire population, men, women and children. The fronts are everywhere. Above all, though the slaughter is only a small fraction, the consequences to the belligerents have been very deadly. In the course of a few months Hitler sprawled over Europe, and nations like Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France were beaten into complete and total submission. Britain, on the other hand, not only fortified her heart but her island, re-armed and re-built her armies and ferried from America across the Atlantic in the month of July an immense mass of munitions of all kinds. Her Empire, she found, standing undismayed against disaster and knit in closer bonds of friendship than ever before. Nor was Britain or her Empire alone in the war. All the governments in exile were in London, Governments of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Norway, Denmark and Holland, while Free France was ranging itself on the side of Britain under the leadership of General de Gaulle. About four million tons of shipping from the captive countries had taken refuge in Britain or in the harbours of the Empire. America was in entire sympathy with British policy, and was already acting on the principle of association of interests for common purposes between Great Britain and the United States, a principle which had been developed even before the war. Britain, therefore, decided to place at the disposal of the United States facilities available in British trans-Atlantic possessions for the naval and air defence of the Western Hemisphere against the attack of a Nazi power which might have acquired temporary but lengthy control of a large part of Western Europe and its formidable resources, and accorded on a 99-years' leasehold basis naval and air facilities in Newfoundland and in the West Indies without any transference of sovereignty. This was the situation, as reviewed on August 20, 1940, by the British Premier in the House of Commons.

Gradually, and at heavy cost, the German Luftwaffe succeeded in reaching London in the course of the air raids which it started at the beginning of this month. On the night of August 22, 1940, bombs were dropped on the outskirts of London, a cinema and other buildings being damaged. On the night of August 24, bombs fell for the first time in Central London. On the previous day, there was severe fighting over Kent, the enemy's attack being directed mainly against aerodromes and the outskirts of the City of London. A good deal of damage was caused to the Manston aerodrome, near Ramesgate. Portsmouth and Dover also were attacked on the same day, with a total enemy loss of fifty aircraft for the day. On August 25, the enemy loss was fifty-five aircraft.

August 25, 1940, is another landmark, because it was on that night that the Royal Air Force first carried the war to Berlin. The raid on Berlin immediately followed that on London; but officially it was not a reprisal.

This time in 1941 we were in the ninth week of the war between Germany and Russia. The Germans had already mounted their second offensive on July 11. With the fall of Vitebesk and the arrival of the German armoured units at Smolensk, it was claimed by the Nazis that the road to Moscow was open, while Leningrad in the north continued to be threatened, and Kiev in the south was equally in danger. Timoshenko's stand at Smolensk pinned down German forces and held up German plans for a month; but by the end of August the situation was actually deteriorating. There was serious demand in the British press for the opening of a second front in Western Europe to relieve the pressure on Russia, while there was also serious opposition from some high quarters not only against a second front, but even against regarding Russia as an ally. It is another feather in Mr. Churchill's cap, another master

stroke of statesmanship to brush aside all silly, half-baked understandings about Russia and to honour her wholeheartedly as an ally, not only in war, but also in the peace to come. The war must be over, and we must be in a position to look back upon the events of the war period with the dispassionate detachment of the historian to realize the depth of understanding and the breadth of vision which our Winston has brought to bear upon the course of World History, and a relieving sense of recognition will dawn on us that during the present critical period of the world, we were under the leadership of such a gigantic personality.

TERRORIST REGIME IN VICHY

During this week in 1941 the Government of Vichy France was enforcing measures to strengthen itself against the underhand forces of Communism on the one hand, and the influences of the Allies on the other. The French Cabinet met twice on the 23rd August to consider internal policy. The official journal published a new drastic law, threatening Communists with imprisonment and hard labour, and in certain cases with death. A thousand arrests were made in Paris. On the 26th August, many anti-German riots were reported in France. On the 27th August, shots were fired by a young Frenchman at M. Laval during a ceremony at Versailles, marking the departure of French "Volunteers" to fight Russia; and the first executions of Communists under the new "terrorist laws" took place in Paris on the 27th August.

This brings us again to the story of Laval with which we stopped short in the last issue. He was the origin of all the terrorist regime in Vichy as he was the initial means of Nazi infiltration into French politics. He is the arch place-hunter, the seeker after office, the political brigand on the lookout for spoils. Marshal Petain made him Vice-Premier and successor-elect and he has emerged as the most powerful political figure in the Vichy gang, and the real power in Vichy administration. Laval began his political life on the Left, as all poor politicians do, and swung to the Right with the increase of wealth and position in society. The son of a provincial butcher, he is the old hand, the experienced professional politician amongst the men of Vichy who are mostly admirals and generals, except perhaps Baudoin, the ambitious dreamer and the new politician. Marshal Petain, the head of the Vichy regime, is a senile defeatist who like General Weygand regarded the German invasion and France's collapse as something inevitable and had, therefore, been morally defeated long before the Battle of France was fought and lost. The result is, Petain is only the figurehead, in Melville's words, the respectable facade behind which the less reputable personalities of Vichy take cover. He, however, belongs to the unconsciously guilty men who helped the downfall of France.

Like Marshal Petain, another outstanding figure of the unconsciously guilty group, is Paul Reynaud who succeeded Daladier as the Premier of France one year after the war began. Reynaud did well for some days, struggling with what seemed to be success against the terrible heritage of defeatism, intrigue and corruption. But he had not the stamina to stand the strain of a war of attrition, while he was also susceptible to the influences of a dangerous woman as an ally, Helene, Comtessede-Portes, a fifth columnist. Paul Reynaud is now in prison at Riom under the Vichy administration.

This week in 1942 was marked by the entry of Brazil on the 23rd August into the camp of the Allied nations. "In the face of the acts of war against our sovereignty" said an official communiqué issued by the Brazilian Government, we recognize that a state of war exists between Brazil and the aggressor nations of Germany and Italy." Besides previous unwarranted attacks on, and destruction of Brazilian ships by German raiders, two more ships, *Itagiba* and *Arara*, were sunk off the State of Bahia on the 19th August. Close upon the heels of this declaration of war, Military representatives of twenty-one American republics, making up the Inter-American Defence Board, unanimously adopted a resolution of "adherence and friendship" towards Brazil on this momentous occasion. President Roosevelt sent a message of appreciation to President Vargas of the Brazilian Republic immediately after the declaration of war.

President Roosevelt made an official statement on the 22nd August regarding the intended visit of Mr. Wendell Willkie to the Near East, Far East and Russia. He also disclosed on the 23rd August at a press conference that Mr. Willkie's visit to the East would include Egypt, Arabia, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Iraq and Iran, and that his main task would be to tell the truth about what the United States was doing to win the war. Mr. Willkie himself in a broadcast said: "We cannot, and we will not win unless the production of guns, planes and tanks is backed up by deep and unswerving devotion to our belief."

That a broadbased, well-planned attack on the Japanese in Burma and China was taking shape in the military counsels of the United States became evident with the appointment on 24th August 1942 of Brigadier-General Clayton Bissell as General Commanding the United States Air Forces in China, Burma and India. In the South-west Pacific a big naval, and air battle was fought off the Solomon islands on the 26th August, and several Japanese carriers and cruisers were hit. Twenty-one Japanese planes were shot down. By this time the Americans had begun to organize their bases in the Solomon islands where the Japanese had lost control of the south-eastern area. Allied aircraft were constantly raiding objectives in Rabaul and Lae, although Port Darwin was also getting some heavy raids from the Japanese as happened on the 25th August. As regards the Middle Eastern situation the Royal Air Force bombers were raiding Tobruk and Mersa Metrah and the Reuter's Military Correspondent reported on the 25th August that things were moving towards the opening of a new battle for Egypt. In Persia and Iraq a new united command was created under General Sir H. Maitland Wilson. On the Western theatre, the Royal Air Force had turned the tables, and Britain was paying back, by this time, what the Luftwaffe gave to the British towns and harbours during this time in 1940. On 23rd August 1942, we heard Sir Archibald-Sinclair, Air Minister, speaking at Swansea: "We intend to press home our attacks on Germany ruthlessly." He described the destruction wrought by the bombers of the Royal Air Force in Germany and German-occupied territories in recent months as terrible. The daily increasing strength of the Allies was driving the steel into Dr. Goebbel's heart and made him declare on the 22nd August: "We all know that if we do not succeed this time we never shall. The German people face the dilemma either to fight or abdicate."

INCREASING ANGLO-RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP

Last week we saw that this time in 1942, Mr. Churchill was paying a visit to Moscow to meet Stalin. The two great European leaders had never before met, and the result of their meeting now was an unshakable joint decision, among other things, to the following effect: "This just war of liberation we are determined to carry on with all our power and energy until complete destruction of Hitlerism and any other similar tyranny has been achieved."

On the Russian front during this week in 1942, the situation in the southern sector continued to be grave and the German drive towards the Caucasus, Stalingrad and Astrakhan was vehement. Even granting that the Germans achieved this immediate objective, which was not the case, the ultimate objective of cutting the Russian armies into two at Voronesh, enveloping Moscow from the south, and concluding the Russian campaign by smashing the Russian army as a fighting force was far remote. It was the genius of Marshal Timoshenko that saved Russia at this juncture in the southern sector. He kept his armies intact, and kept at bay, by retreat and manoeuvre, the formidable striking force of the Germans, without allowing them to smash the Russian fighting machine. The German forces crossed the Don on the 22nd August, while against Stalingrad the Nazis hurled fifty-eight divisions and the Russians began preparations for a seige. By the 28th August the battle for Stalingrad reached the climax.

GREETINGS TO EIGHTH INDIAN FIELD REGIMENT

The following message has been sent by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, to the Officer Commanding the Eighth Indian Field Regiment:—

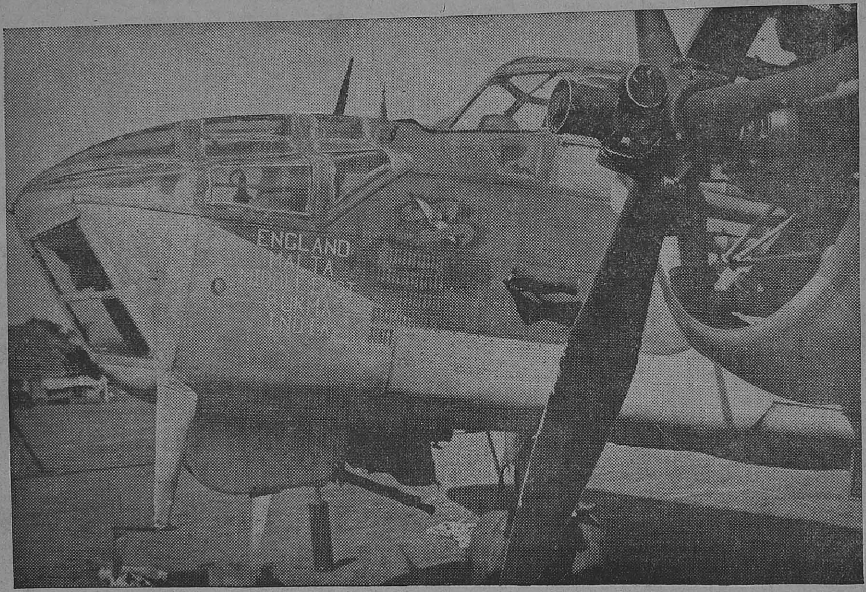
I have much pleasure on behalf of the people of the Madras Presidency and of myself in sending our warmest greetings to the officers and men of the Eighth Indian Field Regiment.

I have no doubt that the Regiment, together with the other Madras units, will play a worthy part in the task of reviving the military prowess of the Presidency, and of winning for it once again an honoured place in the Indian Army.

I assure all ranks that though they may be far from their homes, they are present in our thoughts and that we shall follow their exploits with pride and affection.

Madras War Services Exhibition

THE MOST SPECTACULAR MANŒUVRES YET PUBLICLY PERFORMED IN INDIA



"T for Tommy", a Blenheim bomber which has participated in the Battles of Britain, Malta and Burma, which is one of the new exhibits at the Madras War Services Exhibition.

Re-enacting phases of the recent victorious Battles of Tunisia and Sicily, the Combined Services operations which will be a regular daily feature of the Madras War Services Exhibition will be the most spectacular manœuvres yet publicly performed in India.

The attacking party will be formed by the Madras Guards, supported by units of artillery. Several armoured cars and a party of R.I.N. ratings in power boats will assist in the assault crossing, and a detachment of Sappers will provide a river ferry. The defending party will consist of units of artillery, Bren carriers, armoured cars and tanks.

The battle will open with a barrage put down by artillery units of the attacking force, under cover of which the Madras Guards will cross the river in assault boats, their flanks being guarded by the Royal Indian Navy in armed motor-boats. On landing, the assaulting party will establish a defended bridge-head, thus allowing the Sappers to get their ferry into operation and bring across the armoured cars. Aeroplanes will dive-bomb the bridgehead and will set fire to a model village. All fires will be dealt with by the A.R.P. authorities. . The defending force will go into action against the bridgehead, ferrying service and attacking armoured cars, the whole operation ending in a general mêlée.

Other features of the Madras Exhibition, which will be opened by His Excellency the Governor next Friday, will be aerobatics and trick riding and tent-pegging displays by the Governor's Bodyguard.

Among the new exhibits is "T for Tommy," a Blenheim Bomber with what is most probably a unique history. With 61 operational flights over Burma to its credit, it has been bombed on the ground and strafed on no less than six occasions—and still lives to tell the tale.

A large model town covering an area of 8,000 square feet will deal with post-war reconstruction; it will have a water reservoir and dam, a harbour and dockyard, railway stations and electric trains, an inland water transport system, bridges, roads, aerodromes, factories, cinemas and residential quarters. Close by will be a model farm, complete with livestock, growing crops and dairy produce; this is aimed principally to help alleviate the present food crisis, but it has been designed also with an eye on future needs.

MADRAS WAR SERVICES EXHIBITION

THE EXHIBITION PROGRAMME

26—8—43. Press Preview. (Tea at 5-30 p.m.)

27—8—43. Opening Day. His Excellency The Governor. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

28—8—43. Supply Day. Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. (This is tentative and subject to confirmation.)

29—8—43. Nil.

30—8—43. National War Front Day. Dr. Behanan (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

31—8—43. Ladies Day. Her Excellency Lady Hope. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

1—9—43. Youth Day. Dr. A. L. Mudaliyar. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

2—9—43. Technical Training Day. Khan Bahadur M. A. Gurmani. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

3—9—43. United Nations Day. H. H. Howard. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

4—9—43. Food Day. Dr. Aykroyd. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.) (This is tentative and subject to confirmation.)

5—9—43. Savings Day. His Excellency The Governor.

6—9—43. Services Day. Brig. Connoly. (Speech at 5-30 p m.)

7—9—43. Future Planning Day Sir C. P Ramaswami Ayyar. (Tentative.)

8—9—43. Nil.

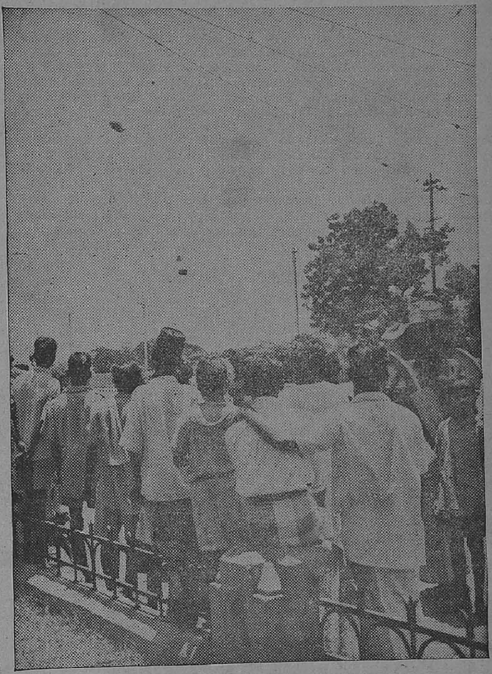
9—9—43. Civic Day. Rao Bahadur C. Tadulinga Mudaliyar.

DAILY PROGRAMME

09-30 hours ..	Show opens for school children.
10-00 to 10-30 hours.	Band of Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners in front of camp.
10-30 hours ..	Firing of Naval Guns.
11-00 hours ..	Show closes.
16-00 hours ..	Show open to Public.
16-30 to 17-00 hours.	Band of Madras Guards in front of camp.
17-00 to 17-15 hours.	Demonstrations by His Excellencys Body-guard. Main Arena.
17-15 to 17-30 hours.	Band of Madras Guards near National War Front Theatre.
17-30 hours ..	Speeches, National War Front Theatre (*See* attached programme.)
18-00 hours ..	Battle. Main Arena.
18-30 hours ..	A.R.P. Demonstration. Main Arena.
19-00 hours ..	St. John's Ambulance and Red Cross demonstration in front of Red Cross stand.
19-15 hours ..	Firing of Naval Guns.
19-45 hours ..	Retreat by Band of Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners in front of camp.
20-00 hours ..	Show closes

Note.—The morning shows commence on August 30.

"SILVER FISH"



Crowds on Mount Road watching the barrage balloon over the Exhibition Ground on the Island.

A YEAR AGO AND NOW

" A year ago Japan occupied several of the Aleutian islands on our side of the ocean and made a great to-do about the invasion of the continent of America. I regret to say that some Americans and some Canadians wished our Governments to withdraw from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean campaigns and divert all our large combined strength for the removal of the Japanese from a few rocky specks in the North Pacific. To day our wiser counsels have maintained their efforts in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, in the China Sea, in the South-West Pacific with ever-growing contributions, and in the North-West Pacific, a relatively small campaign has been assisted by the Japanese themselves in the elimination of the last Jap from Attu and Kiska. We have been told that the Japanese never surrender. Their headlong retreat satisfies us just as well.

President ROOSEVELT, *at Ottawa on August 25.*

ALLIED CENTRAL OBJECTIVE

By WICKHAM STEED

ALLIED military operations are now converging upon the central objective. They are striking blow after blow at German confidence. From north-eastern Sicily to the Russian front around Orel and from Hamburg to Ploesti, these blows tend to transform German hopes of victory into certainty of hopeless defeat. Thus military method serves psychological purpose. Of this purpose the fall of Italian Fascism is preliminary fulfilment.

The collapse of Fascism has done more than open a breach in Hitler's fortress of Europe. While its military consequences cannot yet be estimated, it has disheartened the satellite garrisons of Hitler's outer bastions and has disciplined them to replace the crumbling Italian divisions.

Originally intended to stiffen these Italian divisions, German forces in the Balkans now find their own burden heavily increased and their position in Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Rumania rendered precarious. Equally precarious may become the plight of the German divisions on the Italian mainland no matter whether the German defenders of north-eastern Sicily contrive to escape encirclement, or are killed, or captured.

BEYOND THE BORDER

Widespread Italian demonstrations for peace make any prolonged defence of the Italian peninsula highly questionable. Should Marshal Badoglio's Cabinet, or any other Italian Government withdraw from the war, the south-eastern border of France would soon lie open to Allied and French attack . . . people eagerly await liberation and would certainly not lighten the task of its German defenders.

Hitler and his General Staff may now be weighing arguments for and against withdrawal of German forces to defensive lines less extended than those which run from Northern Norway across Denmark and North-Western Germany along the Dutch, Belgian and French coasts to the Pyrenees and across Italy to the coasts of the Adriatic, the Ægean and the Black Sea up to the Crimea and to the north across Russia to Finland.

Retreat from this wide circumference must strain communications already overburdened and exposed to hostile attack. It would not encourage the German people whom the systematic devastation of Hamburg and the evacuation of civilians from Berlin have deeply depressed. The Germans reflect that strategic withdrawal to shorter lines would also shorten distances between Allied air bases and German industrial centres.

However strongly fortified Hitler's Fortress of Europe may have been, the Germans know it has no roof. Closer concentration of defence would, therefore, imply closer concentration of Allied bombardment from the air.

ALLIED AIM

Nor would concentrated defence increase German military resources. The industrial Ruhr area is in ruins. German war industries in Austria might become vulnerable, as were those of the Ruhr. The destructive raid on Ploesti in Rumania will restrict essential oil supplies and evacuation of subjugated territories would not augment German reserves of food. Altogether Hitler and his Generals appear to be confronted with a serious problem. Grave in its military and strategic aspects, this problem, is psychologically graver still. Hitler's principal organ begs the German people to meet the terror with courageous hearts and warns them that, if they totter, Allied victory will make an end of them. Sooner or later, I believe, the Germans will totter and the Allies will make an end of Hitler and Nazism. The only question is: How soon? The Allied aim is not to destroy German civilians. It is to break German military and civilian confidence in Nazism, aggression and in profitable war. All Allied military operations should, therefore, be judged by their bearing on this central objective.

NOW THEY KNOW

If the behaviour of the German people and the German armies in 1918 when defeat on the field was swiftly followed by moral collapse is a valid indication of the turn events may take, the central objective may be attained more rapidly than Allied military leaders have hitherto permitted themselves to hope.

Meanwhile, nothing will change the determination of Allied Governments, their armies and their peoples to pursue relentlessly their military objectives, inflicting total defeat upon Axis forces in the air, on land and on sea.

For 130 years the Germans have hardly known war in their own country. They inflicted war on Denmark, Austria, France, Russia and other victims of their aggression. Now their home cities are learning what war means. That they must learn that lesson thoroughly is the price of future peace. To win lasting peace for Europe and the world is the supreme Allied objective.

RUNNING COMMENTARY—(*Continued from page 4*)

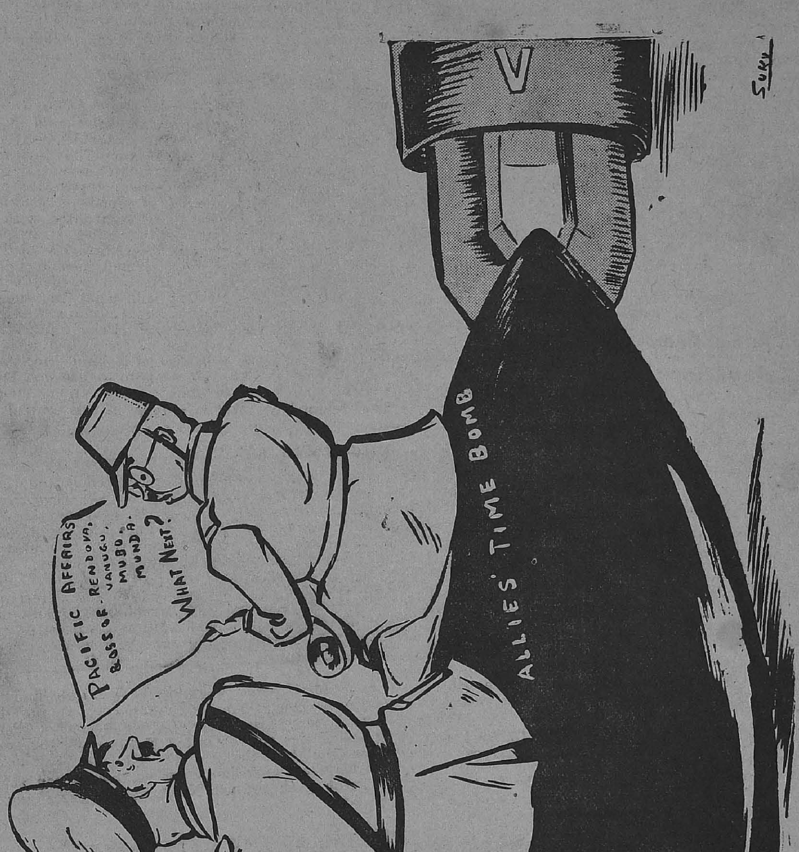
Japans Entry — The Third Phase The third phase of the war was the entry of Japan. Hitler's plan was that Japan should keep Britain occupied in Asia, while the Germans launched a pincer movement from the west. His idea was that Rommel should take Egypt and then march through Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Iran and meet, somewhere on the shores of the Caspian, Von Bock, who, it was expected by the Germans, would take Stalingrad and drive south through the Caucasus and meet Rommel's army. It was thus that Hitler wanted to paralyse the Red Army and march east where he wanted to effect a junction with Japan. But Hitler's plans were foiled: the Allies staged a magnificent come-back. American aid, Russian heroism and British steadfastness completely upset the grandiose pincer plan of the Axis powers. General Alexander's offensive at El Alamein and the Red Army's winter offensive in 1942 made it clear that Hitler was not going to have everything his way.

* * * *

Forward March of United Nations The fourth phase of the war marks the beginning of the forward march of the United Nations. The year 1943 has seen the enemy thrown out of Egypt, and Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, and Tunisia were occupied by the Allies. The fall of Mussolini and the capture of Sicily are two other great events in this march towards victory.

In Russia the Red Army had driven the Germans back to the positions from which they started their 1942 offensive, and what is more important, it has wrested the initiative from the Germans even in summer.

The end of the fourth year sees the Allies on the way to final victory. In the first year, Britain saved Europe. In the second, the Red Army frustrated Hitler's design of world conquest. The third year saw the combination of British, American and Russian strength preventing the junction of the Nazis of the West and the East. And now in the fourth year, we see the initiative firmly in the hands of the Allies. How that initiative is going to be used has already been well planned out in the Quebec Conference. Mr. Churchill told the correspondents that the conference had completed its task with absolute unity of purpose and he looked forward to great steps being taken in the future. The military situation, he added, was now much better than when he was at Casablanca and Washington. There is little doubt that the favourable military position both in the West and in the East will be exploited to the fullest advantage by the leaders of the United Nations.



DO YOU HEAR A TICKING SOUND?

—Specially drawn for the *Madras War Review.*

ALL ROADS LEAD TO BERLIN

By PIERRE HUSS

There are of course also roads leading to two other places. One of them in all probability will be reached before Berlin. The other should not be long after that.

UNCONDITIONAL surrender of the Axis in Europe and the Far East stands today as the inflexible goal of the United Nations.

The problem in the minds of Allied observers is the route of approach to the Continent, the short cut to smashing Hitler.

Looking at the map, and in the light of President Roosevelt's forecast of the probable launching of several invasion onslaughts simultaneously, it becomes clear that at least five main routes of attack are open to the Allies.

Each or several can be selected for the massive knock-out blow to finish Hitler, while bodypunching him from various other directions.

Furthermore, it should be kept in mind that while the invasion onslaught is underway, Axis cities and strong points will smoke and rock under thousands of tons of incendiary and explosive bombs. At the same time, in occupied lands, the outraged peoples will rise in savage fury to settle scores with their oppressors, thus stabbing the defensive power of the Axis armies in the back.

FORMIDABLE FORTRESS

But in the five major roads of approach to the Reich lies the main Allied hope for speedy and decisive victory over Hitler. He sits astride all of them, entrenched behind the most modern fortification systems yet built by man. It can be assumed, too, that every ounce of resistance left in the Nazi wehrmacht will be expended to meet the coming invasion assaults.

He can be tackled from across the English Channel through France and the Lowlands; he can be struck through Norway and the Scandinavian lands; he can be attacked through a smashing drive through Italy or by striking at the "soft under-belly of the Axis" in Greece and the Balkans. Finally, he can be hit with staggering force from Russia, in conjunction with or as a joint attack on the part of the United Nations.

These routes of attack on Hitler are well guarded, but he is vulnerable in each.

He has convinced himself and his Nazis that he is safe behind his super-wall of fortifications along the Lowland and French Channel coasts.

The war has proved that nothing is impossible and that no modern fortifications are invincible.

Why should Hitler's line on the Channel prove an exception under a massive air, land and sea onslaught?

SHORTEST CUT

Should the Allied supreme command select the Lowlands and France for the main invasion route, then the advantages of short distance from supply and bases of operation are on its side, for the English Channel is only 20 miles wide in parts.

All the striking might of sea, land and air forces within easy distance of the goal can be counted on. Such concentrated power can be enormous at point-blank range from the target, and might well prove overwhelming.

I have seen a large portion of Hitler's defence line on the Channel, which runs from the Lowlands along the coast clear through France.

The main strength lies in a closely interwoven network of pillboxes, spaced liberally with every kind of tank and assault obstacle known.

This fortified zone has a varying depth inland of from 10 to 30 miles, the purpose being to "bleed" any attacking forces and thus rob them, in the end, of all offensive power.

TIME WILL SHOW

The Nazis consider this elastic type of defence system practically impregnable, especially when manned by 25 crack defence divisions which can be reinforced at any moment with huge bodies of mobile troops.

However, it remains to be seen whether these Nazi defence lines can withstand the overwhelming air and land assaults planned for them by the Allies in the near future. Like the Maginot Line, they may crumble before Hitler's very eyes. That would number his days and settle his fate.

To make doubly sure against a break in the western approach, the Nazis also have partially rebuilt the old Hindenburg Line of 1918 and turned the Maginot Line around by blasting loopholes and reversing the direction of its fire-power. In Germany proper stands the Siegfried Line, built at great cost before the war by Hitler's labour battalions as a barrier against an Anglo-French invasion. I have seen all those defence systems, and they are formidable lines. Although I believe them vulnerable to a large scale air and land attack, it would be less costly in men and material to the Allies perhaps if the major invasion march against the Axis came from one or more of the four other directions.

SMASH ACROSS ITALY

A staggering smash across Italy into the Dalmatian coast might crack the Nazi armour at one of its weakest points.

The Italian boot itself is vulnerable. An Allied landing thereon is apt to precipitate a revolution.

Frantic fortification work is being undertaken by the Nazis in Southern France, but the time is short and the Nazis may lose that race. Such a route would bring the armies of the United Nations behind the Hitler lines on the Atlantic and the Channel, while a joint push from the Dalmatian coast northward can then help rip a wide path toward Naziland over territory hostile to the Axis.

STRIKING AT THE UNDERBELLY

Striking from key bases in the Mediterranean at the "soft underbelly of the Axis," the United Nations are sure to find collaboration and welcome in many of the Balkan areas. Greece is waiting to rise as one man against Hitler, inflaming therewith the smouldering hatred of the Axis, in Yugoslavia and as far north as Czechoslovakia. Guerilla armies are sure to crop up like dragon's teeth behind Hitler's back once an Allied onslaught comes in force from the south of Europe.

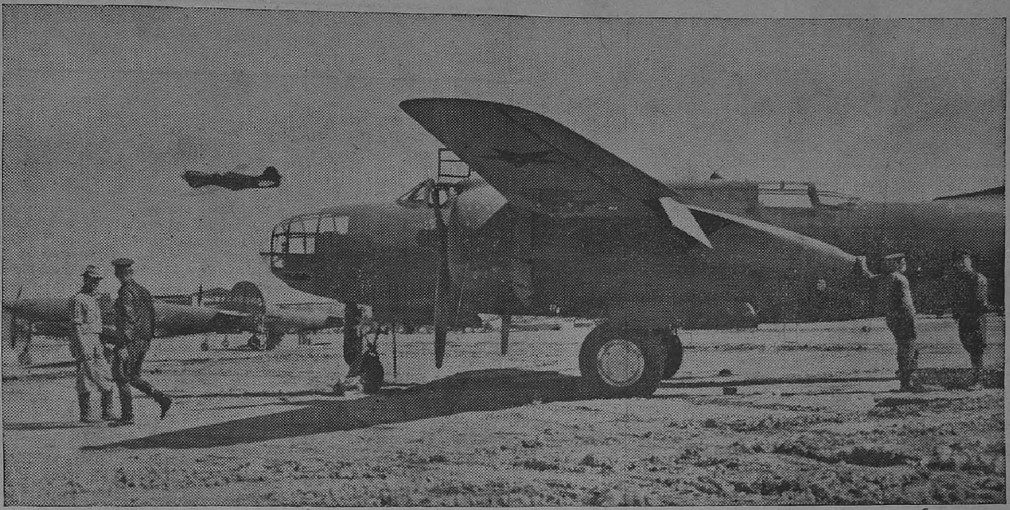
Hitler has "dug in" as strongly as possible astride the roads leading from Mediterranean points northward to Germany. I followed the German army as American correspondent in 1941 through the Balkans to Athens. Fourteen mountain passes must be crossed by any invading army moving into Europe from the Greek shores, and each of these passes has been fortified by the Nazis. One of the heavy lines in the Allied path from that direction would be the old Metaxas Line, on the Bulgar-Greek boundary. Its circumvention can be accomplished through Salonika, a Greek seaport.

The valley of the Danube always has been the great trade and military route into and out of Central Europe. In the 1941 campaign, the Yugoslavs made it their business to dynamite every bridge over the broad Danube. The Germans threw improvised pontoon passages into place.

FORMIDABLE TASK

An attack through the Balkans, therefore, means that the Allied engineering corps will have to grapple with one of the most important jobs ever faced. Heavy fortifications have been slung around the framed "Iron Gates" by the Germans to protect the Danubian route against come what may.

(*Continued on page 14*)



UNITED STATES DELIVERS PLANES TO RUSSIA AT AIRPORT IN IRAN.—A constantly increasing flow of American planes is reaching Russia through a huge new air base in Iran, one of the major delivery centres on the Trans-Iranian supply route. Small planes reach this field in crates by ship and truck, heavy bombers are flown in by pilots of the American Ferry Command. Here they are assembled, tested, tuned up and turned over to Russian pilots, who fly them to bomber bases, fighter fields and training centres. The exact rate at which this airport is turning over planes to Russia is a military secret but the number of planes being delivered by the United States to the U.S.S.R. is substantially greater today than during the period between the end of October 1941 and the end of December 1942, when 2,600 planes were shipped. Photo shows :—American fighters and bombers ready for delivery to Russian pilots stand in the foreground while behind them an American pilot is giving a recently assembled American fighter a test flight. United States Army pilots take each plane up for a final flight before turning it over to the Russians.

WHAT BRITAIN HAS DONE : AID TO RUSSIA

BROADCASTING from London on June 22, 1941, following Germany's attack upon her former ally, Russia, Mr. Churchill said:

". . . Any man or state who fights against Nazism will have our aid. . .

"We shall give whatever help we can to Russia and her people."

And what did Britain do? Pretty much by any yardstick, considering the difficulties of geography which stood between Russia and British aid, and her own commitments at home and in other war theatres.

Well, here are the figures:

By the middle of November 1942, Britain had sent to Russia enough equipment for 20 armoured divisions on the German scale.

For every 100 aircraft which Britain promised Russia she had sent 111 by the end of May 1942.

By the end of 1942 over 3,000 aircraft had been sent.

In the year up to the end of October 1942, Great Britain had, together with the United States, despatched to Russia by the northern route alone 3,052 aircraft.

OVER 5,000 PLANES

Also 4,084 tanks, 50,031 vehicles, 42,000 tons of aviation spirit, 66,000 tons of fuel oil, 831,000 deadweight tons of machine tools, metals, ammunition, small arms, medical supplies, etc.

By the end of 1942 the totals despatched by all routes had grown to over 5,600 aircraft, 6,200 tanks and 85,000 vehicles.

This represented enough tanks for 32 armoured divisions (on the German scale) and enough aircraft for 400 squadrons.

Among other things shipped to Russia were substantial quantities of tin, wool, lead, jute and shellac and thousands of tons of sugar.

By the end of 1942 Britain had sent to Russia seventy million rounds of small arms ammunition for Army purposes alone, and 50,000 tons from her precious stocks of rubber. Quantities of industrial equipment have also been sent.

Nineteen great convoys have arrived safely at Murmansk since the beginning of the Russian war up to the end of 1942. Seventy-five British warships of varying sizes escorted one of the largest convoys in the early autumn of 1942.

Up to June 1942, Britain provided nearly 90 per cent of the ships sailing by the northern route.

Britain has despatched a substantial number of her best locomotives to help the Russian Army and has done fine engineering work in opening up transport through Persia on the southern route to Russia.

INDIA'S PART

Across the scorching Iraq desert the Indian Army have built a railway over 120 miles at the incredible rate of one mile a day.

Its purpose: to speed up supplies to the Russian Armies.

The formal opening of the line took place in December 1942. The completion signified yet another achievement of the Indian Army.

The construction of the railway was an All-Indian affair.

Indian surveyors did the preliminary work. Indian Railway Operating, Maintenance and Construction companies together with the Madras Sappers and Miners laid the lines.

Indian drivers are also helping to carry vital supplies to Russia.

Starting from a railhead somewhere in Iraq, these men of R.I.A.S.C. drive heavy army trucks laden with food and military stores through Persia to a point far north where the Russians take over the goods.

THOUSANDTH GOODS WAGON

As early as November 10, 1941, the thousandth goods wagon, built by the Southern Railway Company to carry supplies to Russia through Persia, was sent on its way.

Working day and night, men and women finished the work in 10 weeks.

In peace time the same output would be scheduled for 12-months' work.

The volume of war supplies carried by the Trans-Persian railway in November 1941, was doubled by January 1942. And in January the British railwaymen in Persia were a mere handful as compared with the thousands who had arrived by June 1942.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

In mid-April 1942, it was reported that great work had been done in speeding the despatch of aircraft through the Persian Gulf so that during the previous four months the total tonnage handled had increased by 600 per cent.

A sum of £2,600,000 in voluntary contributions has been collected in Britain for "aid to Russia."

The British Government has given the Soviet Government credits amounting to £35,000,000.

By an agreement of June 27, 1942, the British Government agreed to ensure the Soviet Government military supplies and other military assistance.

Supplies to the Soviet Union of armaments manufactured in Great Britain or the British Commonwealth were to be made available free of payment.

The British air-offensive against Germany and occupied territories keeps between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 Germans permanently pegged down there.

In addition, half the whole fighter strength of the Luftwaffe is kept away from the Russian front to meet the Royal Air Force's attacks in the West.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO BERLIN

(Continued from page 12)

Prime Minister Churchill's visit to Turkey has brightened the prospects for broadened fields of action against the Axis. If Turkey swings into the camp of the United Nations, then the road of attack through the Balkans gains tremendously in perspective. Simultaneously with an onslaught through Greece, a twin blow through Rumania may be launched. This direction immediately endangers the Ploesti oilfields, at the moment Hitler's major source of fuel oil.

NATURAL ROAD

Furthermore, the road to Berlin via Rumania, Hungary and Austria—geographically and militarily speaking—is the natural one. A joint Allied offensive through Greece and Rumania could well prove fatal to the Axis in record time.

The main prerequisite to conquest of the Nazis over the Balkan route, as far as I could see while following the German army, is absolute control of the air. That is how the Nazis swept through the Balkans. That is how the United Nations can once again sweep back into Europe.

It would be shrewd military strategy if the Allied plan called for simultaneous assaults from the south and the north. This would make it a nutcracker move in huge pincer form against Hitler, his own favourite tactics.

THE NORTHERN BLOW

The northern blow in such case would smash at him through Norway, and perhaps other Scandinavian lands. The Nazis have sought to make the Norwegian coast impregnable through extensive fortification, but a determined Allied onslaught—aided by an interior uprising—could hamstring the Nazis to such an extent that their defeat would be inevitable.

Enormous difficulties in terrain and transportation must be overcome by any forces advancing via Norway. The Nazis along that route are sure to fight with bitter determination, for once an enemy advance approaches from Norway toward Denmark and the Baltic, the great naval gates of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven are threatened. Furthermore, such an Allied advance would compel the Nazis to retreat from the Baltic lands, therewith leaving themselves wide open to an annihilating attack from the Red Army.

Whichever of the routes outlined so far is chosen, there remains also the pivotal line of invasion from the burning front. From that direction Hitler is apt to be suddenly overwhelmed if Allied invasions crack hard enough.

For that reason, it is not at all unlikely that Allied armies transported via the Middle East will suddenly appear side by side with Red Armies to hurl the Nazis back.

EAST WALL

Against such a contingency, Hitler, two years ago, completed the so-called Eastwall a heavy line of fortifications running through Eastern Poland and into East Prussia. The Nazis will grimly defend themselves to the last ditch if cornered in those regions.

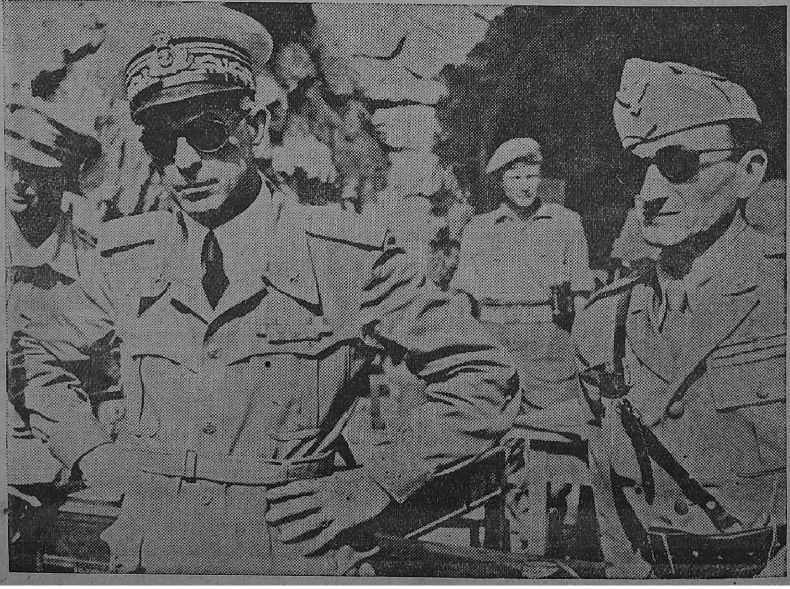
All in all, therefore, the five routes of attack on Hitler are clearly perceptible. It is probable, judging from the implications and forecasts made by Roosevelt and Churchill, that all of these routes in one way or another will be used, eventually, by invading Allied armies.

Those persecuted nationals who have been unfortunate enough to live under the yoke of Nazi tyranny will be ready and waiting for the day when the inner fort of Hitler's empire will be cracked.

And they will be the nucleus of the surging tide which will eventually overwhelm the ever-reoccurring dream of word conquest. And the eventual "Road to Berlin" will be found, irrespective of which channel it shall take, irrespective of how many lives or how much money it shall cost.

Hitler, try as he will, cannot hold all of his strongholds against the rushing tide. Along one of these five roads, be it east or west or north or south, he will stagger and fall.

And he will leave the way to Berlin wide open for the greatest of all Allied victories in Europe.



Admiral Pavesi (left), Italian Commander-in-chief of the island fortress of Pantelleria, is shown with another Italian officer as they were taken prisoner. The Mediterranean base fell after a terrific bombardment by Allied planes.

INVASION OF SICILY.—Men of a Canadian Regiment going up the line.

QUEBEC CONFERENCE—ALLIED INVASION POSSIBILITIES

WIDELY-SCATTERED LUNGES AGAINST HITLER'S COASTAL FORTIFICATIONS

THE Quebec conferences indicate that an Allied invasion of Europe may come swiftly on the heels of the Sicilian clean-up. In spite of fierce fighting, our war materials have been piling up in an impressive back-log in Africa. The sooner we strike, the less time Hitler has to strengthen his European "Fortress." And this is the logical season for landing operations.

Most military analysts are convinced that invasion will be a matter of several widely scattered lunges against Hitler's coastal fortifications. Thus, there could be a full-dress drive on the tottering Italian peninsula and Southern France; a simultaneous blast at the Balkans by the British garrison armies in the Middle East; and a determined thrust across the English Channel at France or the Lowlands, closest to the heart of the Reich. Simultaneously, there might be a diversionary action against Norway.

Thus, invasion possibilities stack up as follows:—

(1) Italy, (2) The Balkans, (3) Northern France or the Lowlands, and (4) Norway.

SOVIETS SYNCHRONIZE ATTACKS

The Soviet Armies synchronized their successful summer offensive at vital points on their long battle line with Allied invasion operations in Sicily. What we have done in Sicily may give the Russians added assault strength. Our African and Sicilian operations have shortened our supply route to Russia by about 5,000 miles. The more supplies we deliver to Russia, the better able will the Russians be to participate in the final attack on Europe.

The immensity of the invasion job without Russian help would be almost inconceivable. The Soviet forces are fighting fully 4,000,000 Nazi soldiers who would otherwise be doing sentry duty for Hitler from Norway's North Cape to Spain and along every inch of the Mediterranean coast line.

The rest of Hitler's troops—probably another 3,000,000 —plus the remainder of his planes and proportionate amounts of other equipment are now deployed along this potential battle line.

Nazi invasion defences extend as far north as Narvik, with about 175,000 troops garrisoning Norway. Air bases, not too heavily manned, dot the Norwegian coast line to its southern tip. The bulk of the German battle fleet is holed up at Trondheim and in other Fjords, which accounts in part for the comparatively light garrison which Hitler maintains in a highly hostile nation. The Nazis believe this powerful war fleet would play havoc with any invasion convoy venturing into Norwegian waters.

In Denmark and the Lowlands, fully 250,000 German troops, some new recruits and some over-age regiments, are on guard. The coastal defences have been strengthened to what the Germans consider the point of impregnability. They also count heavily on the fact that vast areas of the Lowlands can be quickly flooded, although this defence failed to stop their own offensive in the Spring of 1940.

POWERFUL FRENCH DEFENCE

France is by far the most heavily defended of the entire "invasion coast." Within recent weeks the Nazis have sent many divisions of reserve troops into France under the threat of imminent invasion. Some observers in Washington are convinced that the Nazis have from 1,000,000 to 1,250,000 men under arms, many of them crack troops, in all France to-day.

Southern France, fronting on the Mediterranean, largely neglected during the years that the West was being fortified, is now in a frantic state of preparation for an expected Allied assault. Several Nazi divisions, in addition, are quartered on the French side of the Pyrenees on the Spanish border.

The number of Nazi troops now in Italy and Sicily is problematical, but may exceed 500,000. In the Balkans, every man that can be spared from home reserves of the Wehrmacht is stationed at the point which many consider one of the most likely invasion objectives.

The most powerful units—aside from the Russian theatre, an active battle ground—are concentrated in France and Italy. Hitler has not wasted a plane assisting his hopeless Tunisian and Sicilian rear guard campaigns. He is saving them for the Battle of Europe.

The wall Hitler has built around Europe is as strong as guns and planes and flesh and blood can make it. But no defensive wall in history ever withstood the onslaught of a determined enemy, though all were thought as impregnable as Hitler thinks his is to-day.

This is the kind of over-all picture now before Roosevelt and Churchill as they plan the next moves for the re-conquest of a continent. It is a picture which reverses, in a sense, the last three years of history—three years during which Hitler maintained the offensive, and during which the term "iron ring" brought to mind, almost automatically, the thought of Nazi panzers.

To-day the ring is on the other finger. It is a ring forged in the fiercest and bloodiest battles in history. Its Russian segment was hardened at Leningrad, Stalingrad, Sevastopol, Moscow, Kharkov, Voronezh, Orel and Belgorod. In Britain, a beleaguered people struggled through murder raining from the skies to build, patiently, a war machine that one day soon must be tested to the full. To the South the Allies have swept Sicily nearly clear of the enemy, and battle-hardened veterans of the United Nations soon may be ready for their next and bigger adventure.

People often re-call that victory in 1918 began with a breakthrough in the Balkans. That breakthrough was made possible by the existence of a western front. Can to-day's eastern front—the Russian battle line—be considered the equivalent? That is one of the questions now being decided in Quebec.

And another question now being weighed is that of the help we can expect from the underground of France and the Lowlands. Such help, if powerful enough, will go far to balance the danger of striking at the channel or North Sea coast, where Hitler is strongest. Andre Maroselli, former French Senator, recently said: "An invasion of France will bring about an uprising of the French people that will amaze the world."

In Holland and Belgium the spirit of the people is much the same. In Holland unrest has become so general that the Nazis were recently forced to declare a state of siege.

NORWAY—THE OUTER PERIMETER

Patriotic Norwegians, in their own occupied country and in exile, are praying for an Allied invasion which will drive the Nazis from their shores. They hope it will come this year; if it does not, they will be disappointed but not surprised.

For Norway lies on the outer perimeter of Hitler's "Fortress," and the strategists question very seriously whether its re-capture would be worth the blood and guns which it would cost. Undoubtedly, a force of the power which the Allies could muster to-day could drive the Germans out of Norway—but then where would they be? No nearer the heart of Hitler's realm, on the far side of the Skagerrat, than they are now on the far side of the English Channel.

That is not to say that a landing in Norway this fall is unlikely. A landing is even probable—but if it occurs it will probably be either a diversion, designed to keep some Axis planes and soldiers busy while greater events are occurring elsewhere, or a secondary operation with certain objectives of its own.

Now, in the far north, the midnight sun is still blazing almost 24 hours a day, making surprise attacks practically impossible. Norwegian patriots are looking forward anxiously to the fall, when oncoming winter will bring with it darkness and fog in which the liberating invader might hide. For surprise will be a very important part of any Allied attack. The Norwegian coast, if you were to follow every fjord and bay and inlet, is much more than 8,000 miles long, and obviously even the most efficient of the "master race" can hardly hope to patrol every mile of it.

Norwegian sources in New York expect that the first reports of Allied landings in Norway will indicate clearly whether the action is a serious attempt to retake the country, a diversionary operation, or one of strictly limited objectives.

TO CLEAR SHIP LANES

If the Allies land anywhere from Trondheim north, the chances are that their purpose will be to drive the Germans out of northern Norway, to seize the airfields from which German bombers attack Russia-bound convoys around the North Cape, and to eliminate submarine bases in that area.

Such an attack would require the re-capture of Narvik in order to cut German supply lines into the far north. The winter port of shipment for ore from Sweden's iron mines, Narvik controls both coastal shipping and overland communication. The country here is barely 20 miles across.

Once the Allies took Narvik, their steps into the Arctic would be outlined clearly. The port of Tromso; Hammerfest, the most northern town in the world; Kirkenes, the much-bombed port opposite Petsamo, base for Nazi air raiders—once these were wrested from the Germans, the threat to Murmansk convoys would be at an end.

The Nazis appear more worried about an Allied attempt to retake southern Norway, a brief 300 miles across the North Sea from Scotland. It is in the Stavanger area that they have held their anti-invasion exercises and enforced the strictest blackout along the coast. The region from Trondheim southward is very heavily fortified, supported by some of the best airfields in Europe, easily within reach of reinforcement from Germany.

Once the Allies succeeded in making a landing along this southern coast, they would have mountainous country to contend with as far south as Bergen. In the Jaeran area, south of Stavanger, the mountains give way to plains through which a mechanized army might move.

But unfortunately the Germans have foreseen this possibility and have so studded the territory with airfields and fortifications that any advance would be extremely costly.

When U.S. Flying Fortresses tried their first daylight raid on Oslo, three of four bombers were lost, so concentrated was the enemy opposition which they encountered.

ITALY—ITEM ON VICTORY AGENDA

An Allied invasion of Italy, or of Italy and southern France simultaneously, may be the next item on our victory agenda. Many observers feel that the pattern of Allied strategy in an attack on Italy will not aim solely through Sicily, for although a large Allied force is already massed only a few miles from the Italian mainland, this short route does not necessarily offer the best military advantages. Once established in southern Italy, the Allies might have to beat their way north along a mountainous trail. That would depend, of course, primarily on the Nazis' plans—and what the leaders now meeting in Quebec know of them.

Possibly the best way of knocking Italy out of the war would be to cut the country in half, isolating the southernmost regions from Germany by occupation of essential ports and land communications in the centre.

This plan might involve a determined sea-air attack against the Italian naval bases of Taranto and Brindisi where the major part of the Italian fleet is now semi-immobilized, while Allied troopships crossed the Mediterranean for other landings. A major step would be the occupation of a large, well-developed port in central Italy—possibly Naples. This would be accomplished by a sea-borne force after Allied naval and air strength had laid Naples' defences low. The occupation of Naples would provide the Allies with an important base to which supplies could be speedily dispatched from North Africa. Moreover, Naples would give the Allies virtually complete control of railroads and highways running along the Italian west coast to the south. Communications on the Adriatic coast, fewer and less efficient, could possibly be cut in a dozen places by paratroops.

This campaign would not immediately threaten the main enemy—Germany—because Italy probably would not be used as a highway into the heart of Europe. The towering Alps in northern Italy—across which there is only one pass, the Brenner—are an effective barrier.

A second invasion plan embraces landings in northern Italy and on the southern coast of France. This could be carried out simultaneously with or shortly after the first campaign.

A pre-requisite to this plan is the destruction of the remaining strength of Axis air and naval bases on Sardinia and Corsica. Once they are knocked out, Allied shipping would pass through a wide stretch of friendly water—far from Axis air bases.

The strategy used in landing in southern France might well follow that used in our invasion of North Africa and Sicily; landings at numerous points, some troops putting ashore on both sides of such ports as Marseille and Toulon, others serving as feinting operations; naval bombardment and aerial bombing of Nazi installations.

One of the first acts of Allied troops after landing would be to cut rail links between southern France and Italy, thus virtually isolating Germany from Italy except by air through the Brenner Pass.

The occupation of France's Mediterranean shore would bring the Allies close to the heart of Hitler's Europe.

BRITAIN THANKS MADRAS

The following is a copy of a telegram dated, August 18, 1943, received from Sir Stafford Cripps, London, by His Excellency the Governor of Madras :—

Once more it is my pleasure to send thanks for another fine contribution from the people of Madras which will help to keep in the air those numerous fighters and bombers which have been provided by the generosity of Madras.

BALKANS—AID OF GUERILLA FORCES

Topographical barriers make the Balkans more difficult to invade than either France or Italy. Moreover, since the Balkans are at the periphery of Hitler's stronghold, there is less to be gained by an invasion. Yet the very difficulties and remoteness from Germany proper mean that South-eastern Europe is not so strongly defended, and the area abounds with guerilla forces that would rush to our aid.

There are three principal invasion routes into the Balkans:—

(1) Via the Aegean Sea to Salonika and through Yugoslavia.
(2) Via the Albanian coastal plain.
(3) Via Turkey across Bulgaria to the Danube.

By far the easiest, topographically, is the route via Turkey. But that presupposes Turkey's entry into the war on the Allied side.

South-eastern Europe is chiefly up-and-down; the word Balkan means mountain. Every avenue for invasion crosses at least one water-shed divide, all of them tough for any army.

If we choose the Salonika route, we must first occupy the whole sea-and-land area to the south: Crete, the Aegean islands, the hilly Peloponnesos and the main Greek peninsula. Crete, a giant unsinkable aircraft carrier, in itself represents a formidable problem.

The Axis has built airfields and other defence works on the principal Aegean islands, including Melos, Naxos, Samos, Chios, Lemnos, Mytilene and the Dodecanese. These, plus the Greek peninsula, offer the Axis opportunity for delaying actions.

Once we are at Salonika, the Vardar Morava corridor through Skoplje and Nish, though tough, can be forced. It was over this route that the Nazis drove in the Spring of 1941. In 1918, the Allies—after years of delay—finally launched a well-prepared offensive up this corridor and smashed war-weary Bulgaria in a few days.

Once past Skoplje, the Allied invaders will enter territory largely under the control of Gen. Mihailovitch's Chetniks or the progressive peasant partisans who, whatever their differences, can be expected to co-operate with the Allies.

On the other hand, every mile the Allies advance adds another mile to supply lines which stretch not merely from Libya and Egypt, but from Great Britain and the United States of America.

A landing on the Albanian coast likewise involves difficult prerequisites. From the Albanian coastal plain the Allies may drive north and north-east to the Chetnik-Partisan districts of Yugoslavia, or eastward through the famous Monastir gap to Salonika, thus cutting off Axis forces in Greece and Crete.

Obviously, this route would necessitate prior occupation of southern Italy for protection against flank attack. Moreover, communication lines from the Albanian plain into the interior of Yugoslavia are limited to two heavy-duty roads.

The route via Turkey is the easiest topographically, the most direct and the best equipped with communications. It involves no lengthy series of preliminary operations, and Bulgaria has the most stubbornly anti-Nazi, pro-Russian population in all the Balkans.

Another advantage would be the possibility of landings on the Black Sea coasts of Bulgaria and Rumania. The ports of Burgas and Varna are both terminals of east-west railroads which parallel the Maritsa valley line.

CROSS-CHANNEL—THE SHORTEST WAY

A bridge of boats and a leakproof canopy of fighter aircraft are the prime essentials for invasion of Europe across the narrow waters of the English Channel—most favoured spot on the continent for the main push.

Facing invaders from English shores are the strongest fortifications ever built by man—it is the most difficult landing operation in military history.

There are many arguments to support an invasion of Europe across the English Channel at any one of a dozen points between the Netherlands and Cherbourg.

Communication lines are short, just the width of the channel, well within fighter plane range and within the range of invasion barges.

It offers the shortest route to Berlin.

The terrain offers a better chance for landings than Norway, for instance.

By dropping weapons from planes in France we can arm a great potential army which will work from within to assist our main invasion operation.

Much invaluable data as to coastal defences was obtained during the great "reconnaissance in force" at Dieppe. It will assist in the planning of the actual landing operations.

One of the manœuvres which has gained some favour as possible invasion strategy is the massing of clouds of fighter planes and invasion barges for a quick lunge across a narrow point in the channel while bigger troop transports and light naval craft strike at the western-most part of France, near Brest. Successful landings and continuous reinforcement and supply at both points would allow of a pincer movement that would have every chance of success. Isolation of any substantial wedge of coastline would be the ideal bridgehead.

We learned at Dieppe that the French coastline is not as it appears—to the public—on the maps. It is rocky and difficult for most of its length. We are planning to storm it with painstaking precision but the Nazis are prepared to repel our onslaught with an equal degree of meticulous thoroughness.

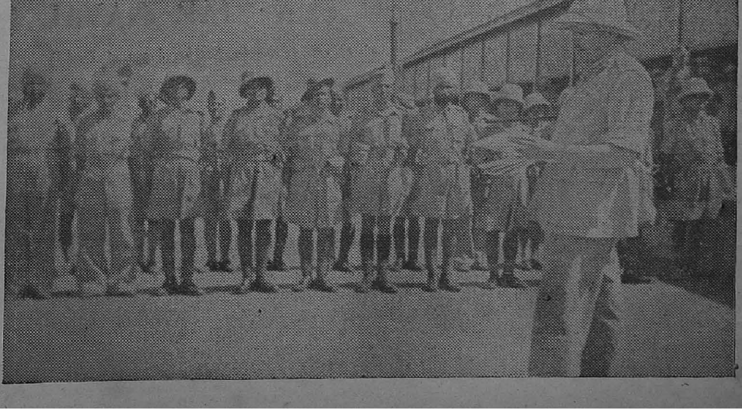
The task ahead of the initial attacking forces at any or all of these objectives cannot be exaggerated. To solidify a bridgehead sufficiently stable to allow unmolested disembarkation of large numbers of troops and unloading of tremendous volumes of supplies and motorised vehicles and armour we must gain full control of all dock area in the neighbourhood and a surrounding area wide enough to prevent artillery assault by the defending enemy. It is estimated that an area of 10 miles from the waterfront is essential for success.

Many of the best British and American military analysts were encouraged by the Dieppe raid in spite of the great loss of life and the comparative strategical obscurity of the mission. They were surprised to learn that a comparatively small attacking force, not reinforced by a steady flow of troops or supplies, could attain a foothold and hold it for nine hours.

—*Adopted from the New York newspaper* P.M.

BACK IN INDIA.—Indian troops returning to India are given a big welcome in honour of their splendid service overseas, where further glory has been added to their name.

When units returned special messages from Field-Marshal Wavell were read to them by the Sind District Commander. The arrivals in this case were Mule Companies, R.I.A.S.C.



ATTEMPT TO "JAPANISE" OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

CONTROL OVER ALL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Inculcation of a "new spirit of Asia" is the professed objective of the Japanese in the countries they have occupied. Just how "new" is this spirit, and what really does it seek to do? It seeks, as this article tries to show, to impose Jap ideas—whether in the sphere of Culture or Education, Religion or Politics—on other peoples, with a view eventually to robbing them of their individualistic life and making them the merest utensils of the Japanese will.

THE Japanese often assert in their propaganda that they intend to respect existing languages, culture and religious beliefs in the countries which their armed forces have occupied. But it is evident from their broadcasts that they are making strenuous efforts to impose their own influence and culture upon the subject peoples.

One of the first actions of the Japanese military authorities in the occupied countries was to close all schools. Later, after their curricula had been overhauled to inculcate the "New Spirit of Asia," the schools were re-opened one by one. That the "New Spirit of Asia" is usually the old spirit of Japan is suggested by Batavia radio's boast that the new schools in Asia foster the spirit of "Asia for the Asiatics" and that "the children drill and march proudly in the Nippon style and wave Nippon flags." Numerous Japanese language schools have been started and many Japanese teachers have arrived from Japan to take charge.

JAPANESE TEACHERS

Although the Papanese have often amused their listeners with stories of Indonesians learning to speak Japanese fluently in three months, it is clear that they attach great importance to the spreading of their language. In French Indo-China, for example, Japanese is now being taught in the middle schools so that the students "can read Nippon newspapers and books." In the Philippine islands Japanese and Tagalog have been made the official languages. In Hong Kong Chinese students are being given a Japanese education "to promote Sino-Japanese goodwill." Nearly 7,000 pupils are said to be learning Japanese from 112 instructors. In Java Indonesian officials are given promotion "in accordance with their proficiency in the Japanese language." In Shanghai Japanese is now the official language of the Shangai Municipal Council. In the East Indies Dutch place names have been replaced by Japanese names. Street names in Macassar have been replaced "by appropriate Japanese names."

"GREATER EAST ASIA"

The chief organ in the furthering of Japanese influence in the occupied regions is the "Greater East Asia Ministry." On the very day of its establishment, November 1 last year, Tokyo radio announced a great increase in the number of Japanese officials in occupied China. Under its auspices and those of various military administrations there has been a great exodus of officials and advisers to the occupied regions. In the Indies, for example, not only are there Japanese Governors in Sumatra and Japanese Mayors in Java, but several months ago Tokyo announced the dispatch of judicial officials to Sumatra and Malaya and a revision of the judicial system in Java. More recent is the establishment of a judicial officers' training institute in Java where Indonesian students will acquire the "Japanese judicial spirit" and learn Japanese language, law and history.

NEW POLITICAL PARTIES

A cultural agreement was signed with Siam last October, and ratified on December 21, to further the cultural exchange between the two countries. At the time Tokyo spoke of Siamese enthusiasm for the study of Japanese but one has still to hear of any corresponding Japanese enthusiasm for the Siamese language and culture. A "Musical Culture Research Institute" has been established in Tokyo to promote musical exchanges in "Greater East Asia." Japanese "cultural halls" have been erected at Bangkok, Hanoi and Saigon. New political parties have been set up in occupied regions, like the "New People's Movement" in Java; the "Rise of Asia League" in occupied China; the "Central Service Association" in the Philippines, and the "New Association" in Burma where the old political parties have been abolished and a new one created "to unify Burma and strengthen co-operation with Japan."

PRESS AND RADIO

In regard to the press, the occupied regions have been divided among the larger Japanese newspaper groups. Thus the Tokyo *Nichi Nichi* and Osaka *Mainichi* group now controls the Philippines Press through the newly established *Manila Shimbun*, which has taken over all Japanese, English and Spanish publications. It also issues a special weekly to teach the Japanese language and culture. In Burma the *Yomiuri Hochi* group issues the *Burma Shimbun*, as well as a weekly graphic edition in Chinese, English and Burmese. The Japanese, of course, control broadcasting throughout the occupied regions and have greatly increased their control over the Saigon radio.

Shintoism is being propagated and other religions are being Japanised and organised to subserve Japan's political aims. Last October Tokyo radio told Japanese home listeners that "Filipino officials are receiving Shinto training" and that the Sultans of Malaya and Sumatra had "paid homage at the Singapore Shinto Shrine." "Co-prosperity" visitors to Japan are always escorted to Shinto shrines and the Japanese were told recently how Ba Maw and his party, upon worshipping at the Grand Shrine of Ise, "themselves experienced the calming influence of the shrines."

BOWING TO TOKYO

The Muslims in Malaya and the Indies have been regimented by Japanese, who have recently devoted much attention to the Muslim question. In recent Japanese-controlled broadcasts from Radio Saigon the announcer unblushingly declared that, "As protector of Islam in the East, Japan has earned the undying gratitude of Muslims throughout the world." This does not prevent the Japanese from insisting that a big gathering of Indonesians in Batavia should open their conference by bowing not in the direction of Mecca, but in the direction of Tokyo, the residence of the Sun God.

The above gives only a very brief indication of the vigour and extent of the Japanese Kulturkampf in Asia. With every week that passes the Japanese attempt to strengthen their hold on the local populations within the sphere they now dominate.

THE SETTING SUN: JAP NAVAL LOSSES

(From start of War to 20th August 1943)

Note.—Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	2	..	9
Aircraft carriers	6	1	7
Cruisers	26	4	47
Destroyers	76	21	62
Submarines	6	1	6
Tenders	1	1	4
Unspecified types	25	3	17
Total	142	31	152
Non-combatant ships	250	27	113

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR'S COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	..	..	1
Aircraft carriers	1	..	2
Cruisers	11	..	21
Destroyers	21	3	25
Submarines	10	..	2
Tenders	2	..	..
Gunboats	4	..	..
Torpedo boats	1	1	1
Unspecified types	1	1	1
Total	51	5	53
Non-combatant ships	240	31	210
Unidentified	14	..	15

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 320 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

18TH AUG.—According to the *Voelkischer Beobachter*, the whole German Government had left Berlin.

Allied planes attacked Axis airfields at Poix and Amiens in France.

20TH AUG.—Mosquitoes bombed targets in Berlin—the 72nd attack. Fighters attacked enemy shipping in the Channel. A minesweeper and a R-boat were sunk and another R-boat was set on fire. Airfield and railway targets were attacked in France and Belgium.

Mr. Brenden Bracken, British Minister of Information, declared: "Our plans are to bomb, burn and ruthlessly destroy in every way available to us the people responsible for creating this war."

The Royal Air Force attacked the enemy aircraft factory at Flushing and the railway marshalling yards at Abbeville.

General von Chamier Glisezenski, inventor of most of Germany's secret weapons, was assassinated at Peenemunde.

Emil Ludwig who predicted Mussolini's downfall a few days before it occurred, said: "Within a few months, certainly this year, the Germans will surrender."

23RD AUG.—There was an air-raid alert in London area. One German aircraft was destroyed.

Thousands more of American troops reached England after an uneventful crossing.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in the Rhineland, including the Chemical Works at Leverkusen.

24TH AUG.—Five German planes were destroyed in raids on England.

The Royal Air Force attacked Berlin in very great strength. More than 1,700 tons of bombs were dropped in 15 minutes. American bombers swept over France.

25TH AUG.—Berlin was again bombed by the Royal Air Force. American aircraft were over Paris.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

19TH AUG.—It was reported that political developments arising from the Quebec Conference would include a new declaration of adherence to the Atlantic Charter, a statement on British-American-Soviet war and post-war relations and a definition of Allied policy towards Axis countries anxious for an armistice.

One military expert stated: "Britain is the oldest and greatest Allied base in this war . . . A major blow at Germany must be struck from the west—and soon."

20TH AUG.—President Roosevelt was understood to be definitely planning to send a special diplomatic convoy to Moscow after the Quebec Conference.

The Soviet paper *War and the Working Class* in an editorial demanded a three-power conference of Britain, United States and Russia.

The arrival of a British Naval and Air Mission to plan maximum British co-operation with the United States in the war against Japanese was announced by the British Information Service.

21ST AUG.—Broad military planning at the Quebec Conference concluded. It was reported that arrangements had been made for a considerable increase in the Lease-Lend aid to Russia. It was also reported that an all-out attack for crushing Japan would be launched from Canada's shores.

Mr. Sumner Wells, acting United States Secretary of State, said that the State Department had received a notification from the Italian Government of its desire to make Rome an open city.

22ND AUG.—M. Maxim Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador to United States, was released from his post and M. Andrey Gromyko was appointed in his place.

Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, and Dr. T. V. Soong, Chinese Foreign Minister, arrived in Quebec.

23RD AUG.—Commanders were believed to have been appointed by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt for "several offensives" in the European theatre. Reuter's special correspondent wrote: Allied offensives "will certainly satisfy Marshal Stalin's repeated demands for a second front." Plans for war on Japan also were discussed.

24TH AUG.—The Conference at Quebec ended. President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill issued a joint statement.

Mr. Churchill and Mr. Anthony Eden, it was reported, would proceed to Washington to attend the continuation of the conference.

According to the Washington *Evening Star*, Mr. Sumner Wells had resigned his post of Under Secretary of State.

25TH AUG.—President Roosevelt addressed the Canadian Parliament.

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

19TH AUG.—Brigadier-General H. C. Davidson assumed command of the United States Army 10th Air Force in place of General Clayton Bissell.

22ND AUG.—According to a report by the War Department by Captain Clarke Johnston: "Air bombing has so crippled the Japanese war effort in Burma that they have not been able to exploit the country or use it as an invasion base."

23RD AUG.—United States bombers raided Mandalay.

24TH AUG.—United States Air Force bombed an enemy freighter anchored at Car Nicobar island in the Nicobar group. Targets in Central Burma were also attacked.

25TH AUG.—A Japanese supply depot at Baguna was attacked. Enemy attempt to cross the Salween river was foiled.

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ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19TH AUG.—United States naval forces shelled military objectives on the Italian mainland. Bridges and power installations at Gioia Tanro and Palmi Gioia in the Gulf of Gioia were bombarded from the sea. The province of Naples was raided.

His Majesty the King sent a message of congratulation to General Eisenhower on the final accomplishment of occupation of Sicily. President Roosevelt also sent a message.

According to an official statement, the German losses in Sicily were two division killed, wounded or prisoners. The Italian Sixth Army was wiped out—the fifth they had lost in this war.

According to the *Lausanne Gazette*, 15 German divisions were stationed in Italian territory. It was reported that the Mayors of Milan, Como and Verona resigned simultaneously.

20TH AUG.—The islands of Lipari and Stromboli, the two main islands of Aeolion group, surrendered to a United States naval expedition.

United States Air Force dropped a heavy weight of bombs over Foggia railway targets.

Reggio Di Calabria, the principal port in the toe of Italy, was evacuated by Axis troops.

The Algiers Radio broadcast a warning to Italy that it would suffer the same fate as Sicily if the Germans were allowed to use it as a battle field.

21ST AUG.—Seven Axis landing craft were sunk off Scalea. Medium bombers attacked the railway yards at Aversia and Benevento near Naples.

22ND AUG.—Railway communications in Southern Italy were attacked by the North African Air Force. Night bombers attacked railway yards at Battipagalia. United States aircraft attacked the marshalling yards at Cancello.

General Eisenhower, in a statement summing up the campaign in Sicily, said: "This campaign is a magnificent evidence of the superiority of Allied air and naval forces."

23RD AUG.—Reuter's special correspondent said that along the whole of the North African coast, massive Allied assault forces were concentrated for further invasion of the European fortress.

It was revealed that 400,000 German troops were in Italy.

Allied aircraft raided Salemo. Twenty-eight Axis planes were shot down. The Royal Air Force destroyed or damaged a big convoy of enemy road transport located in the toe of Italy.

Marshal Badoglio asked Hitler to consent to the proclamation of Rome as an open city.

General de Gaulle, addressing the French Expeditionary Forces, said: "The war is approaching its end, but hard fighting is still ahead. We must prepare for this."

24TH AUG.—North African bombers attacked Italian rail roads. The French cruisers *La Fantasque* and *Le Terrible*, it was disclosed, were operating in close co-operation with the Allied forces in the Mediterranean.

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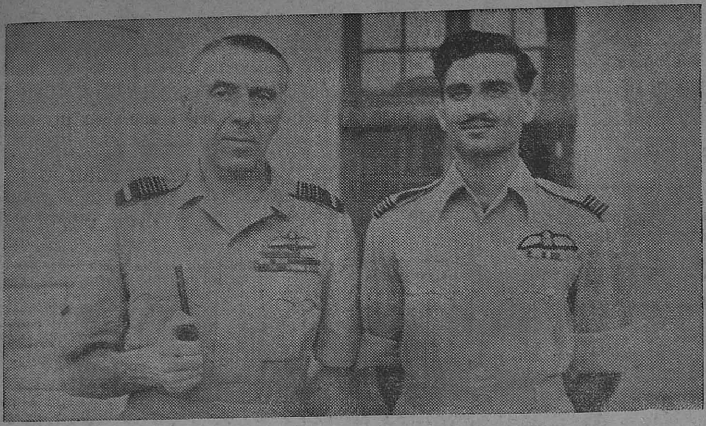
RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19TH AUG.—The Soviet High Command launched a long-prepared pincer attack against Staraya Russa. Two hundred Soviet tanks rolled into action north and south



Squadron Leader A. B. Awan of Dera Ismail Khan, North West Frontier, India, with Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, India, prior to his departure for England and America.

Squadron Leader Awan will tell his colleagues of the Allied Air Forces about the rapid expansion of the Indian Air Forces and of the part its pilots and ground crews are playing in the battles against the Axis. Squadron Leader Awan is one of the oldest pilots of the Indian Air Force. He was one of the original six cadets who were trained at Cranwell (England).

of the town. The German army retreated in the Kharkov area. The Red Army, driving deeper into the Ukraine, threatened the towns of Sumy and Poltava. Soviet troops cut the railway from Kharkov to Izyum.

20TH AUG.—The Russians captured Lebedin. There was heavy fighting in the district of Byelgorod and Kharkov.

The Russians launched an offensive in the Loukhi sector of Finland.

21ST AUG.—The Russians recaptured several more places in the Kharkov region. In the period between July 5 and August 20, the Russians destroyed 4,600 German planes, 6,400 tanks and 3,800 guns. The Russians also captured 850 tanks, 1,274 guns and took 25,000 prisoners. There was bitter fighting on the Bryansk front.

A petition signed by 50 prominent Finnish politicians was presented to President Risto Ryti demanding immediate positive measures for a separate peace with the Soviet Union.

22ND AUG.—Mr. Churchill, in a broadast, said: "The Russians are no longer on the defensive. They have wrested the initiative from the enemy and to-day it is the Germans who are kept wondering which way the cat will jump."

Russian units wiped out about 400 Germans on the Leningrad front.

23RD AUG.—*The Russians captured Kharkov by storm.* [This was the fourth time that Kharkov had changed hands. It first fell to the Germans four months after their invasion of Russia in 1941. Their occupation lasted for 16 months until February 16, 1943, when the Russians regained it. A month later, on March 15, the Germans were again in occupation and this time they held it for about 23 weeks.]

In an Order of the Day, Marshal Stalin said: "I thank all troops who have taken part in the liberation of Kharkov. Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for liberty. Death to the German invaders!"

As a result of the fall of Kharkov, enemy position east of the Dnieper was in danger.

Soviet bombers raided Helsinki.

The Russians made a fresh break-through south-west of Voroshilorgrad.

24TH AUG.—The Battle for the Donetz was in full swing. Fast moving Soviet mobile troops were in hot pursuit of the retreating German forces from Kharkov.

25TH AUG.—*The Russians captured Zenkor, 85 miles north-west of Kharkov.*

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NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19TH AUG.—Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Minister of Production, in a message broadcast on the opening of the Turkish International Trade Fair at Izmir, Smyrna, said that it was an open secret that Mr. Churchill's historic visit to Turkey had "not been without its effect on our deliveries of arms to Turkey."

20TH AUG.—Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Spain, had talks with General Franco.

21ST AUG.—It was believed that General Franco was striving desperately to reach a quick agreement with the Allies as a last chance to save his personal regime.

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VICHY, FREE FRENCH AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

20TH AUG.—The Germans issued an ultimatum to French patriots to hand over their arms before August 24.

In spite of the Hungarian Premier's opposition, the Hungarians gave in to the German demand for 10 divisions. Eight of these divisions were to be sent to the Eastern front.

22ND AUG.—Despite the effort of the Gestapo and Vichy police, 290,000 young Frenchmen evaded deportation to Germany. Some 80,000 fled to the mountains and 200,000 hid themselves in French towns and villages.

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THE FAR EAST

19TH AUG.—Balik Papan in Borneo was raided again. Direct hits were obtained on four large enemy vessels.

Liberators attacked Japanese troops supply concentrations at Canto near Hanoi.

Chinese forces in Kwangtung province launched an attack on Japanese forces holding out in Chungshan, south of Canton.

20TH AUG.—Mr. Edgar Snow, cabling from New Delhi to the New York *Saturday Evening Post* said that Japan missed the boat by not attacking India last year. "It is my guess that Japan will never again be able to afford air protection adequate for a big offensive against India."

A treaty between Japan and Siam was signed whereby Japan recognized the incorporation in Siam of the Malayan States of Kelantan, Thengganu, Kedah and Perlio and the Shan States of Kentung and Mongpan.

21ST AUG.—*Kiska was taken by the American forces from the Japanese without opposition.* Fifty-nine Japanese combatant and non-combatant vessels were sunk in the Aleutian area since Pearl Harbour.

The Japanese retreated from the air base of Salamaua.

22ND AUG.—The last Australian election returns showed that Labour (Government Party) had gained a majority of almost two to one in the House of Representatives and had captured all the 19 of the vacant Senate seats.

Vice-Admiral Thomas G. Kinkaid, Commander of the North Pacific operations, said: "Our recapture of Kiska without opposition means that we have completed our northern road towards Japan."

In a further attack against Wewak, 33 Japanese planes were shot down by Allied aircraft. Allied heavy bombers attacked the Japanese nickel centre of Pomelaa, Dutch Celebes. Japanese planes raided Darwin.

American planes raided Tienho airfield in Canton, scoring direct hits on hangers.

23RD AUG.—The fall of Salamaua was imminent. American and Canadian troops landed in Segula island, adjacent to Kiska.

Chunking was bombed for the first time in two years by the Japanese.

Mr. Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, commenting on the election results said that the Government would justify the confidence placed in it by the electors by prosecuting the war with the utmost vigour.

24TH AUG.—A joint statement was issued by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill at the end of the conference at Quebec. The statement disclosed that military discussions were centred largely upon the war against Japan.

In New Guinea, Allied forces crossed the Francisco river.

Several thousand Japanese troops launched an attack in North Anhwei province but were repulsed by the Chinese after severe fighting.

25TH AUG.—Lord Louis Mountbatten was appointed supreme Allied Commander in south-east Asia.

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